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wrote "mirror script;" in the English state he was right-handed, and wrote from left to right in the ordinary way. In passing from one to the other he was often ambidextrous and spoke both Welsh and English. In the English state he is fairly intelligent, draws pictures of ships and tells stories of his former life. His memory is a complete blank for all events that have occurred to him during the Welsh state, while he remembers clearly things that happened during previous English states. The right and left-handedness make this one of the clearest cases of dual brain action on record. The pulse was different in the two states, full with high tension in the English, and weak with lower tension during the Welsh state.

C. F. H.

Mental Stupor as a Pathological Entity. JAMES R. WHITWELL. Brain, LXIX, 1895. Pp. 67-73.

The author's observations on a group of cases in which "mental and nervous lethargy and torpor," and "no sign of originating mental power" are characteristic features, tend to support the theory that the condition is caused by deficient development of the vascular system. He finds in general a disproportionately small heart or aorta or basal cerebral vessels, one or all three, which suggests that the vascular system has "ceased developing at the stage of evolution or about puberty or adolescence." Either this lack of proportion between vascular and cerebral systems is present or the stupor is intermittent, "caused by or associated with temporary spasm of the peripheral vessels during the period of mental stupor, this spasm relaxing during the period of lucidity." In the general thesis this line of reasoning resembles a theory now practically abandoned, viz., that early ankylosis of the skull sutures prevents development of the brain.

C. F. H.

On the Accelerator and Inhibitory Nerves to the Crab's Heart. F. S. CONANT and H. L. CLARK. Journal of Experimental Medicine, Vol. I, pp. 340-46. Baltimore, 1896.

It is somewhat surprising to find the nervous control of the heart in crustacea practically as complete as in the vertebrates. The crab experimented upon was the common edible crab, *Callinectes hastatus*, and, while others have demonstrated accelerator and inhibitory effects on the stimulation of various nerves in the crustacean, the exact anatomical relations, together with the physiological function of each nerve, have not been clearly made out by previous observers. All the cardiac nerves arise from the anterior part of the thoracic ganglion. The most anterior pair of heart nerves are inhibitory. Behind these, opposite the origin of the nerves to the third maxillipeds and first ambulatory leg, arise two pairs of accelerator nerves. Besides these, as in the higher animals, a ganglionic plexus is present in the pericardial wall. This nervous supply is able, with the heart isolated, to carry on the rhythmical beat normally, as in higher vertebrates. Stimulation of the cerebral ganglia invariably caused inhibition. Actual tracings were obtained by delicate tambours, which give the main results with graphic clearness.

C. F. H.

A Case of Circumscribed Unilateral and Elective Sensory Paralysis. LEWELLYN F. BAKER. Journal of Experimental Medicine, Vol. I, pp. 348-60.

Owing probably to a cervical rib pressing upon some of the posterior fibres of the brachial plexus, cutaneous sensibility is deficient

over the area of distribution of the median brachial and anti-brachial nerves of the author's left arm. A most thorough survey of this region by the methods and under the direction of Professor v. Frey shows that "in this area the sensations for warmth, cold, pressure and touch are absent." There is also a slight diminution in the number of pain spots. It is of especial interest to note that tickle is also absent from the affected region.

A Comparative Study of the Point of Acute Vision in the Vertebrates. J. R. SLONAKER. American Naturalist, Jan. 1st, 1896. Pp. 24-32, 4 Figs. in text.

A first step in any adequate comparative psychology must be a knowledge of animal sense organs. This has been secured recently by Tuckerman for organs of taste in vertebrates, but the discovery of sense organs so closely resembling taste buds by Langdon over the surface of the earth-worm must open up the subject again, and bring the realization that a wide region of terra incognita as to these structures exists in the invertebrates, and the recent investigations of Retzius renders it clear that to search the tongue and mouth cavity is not sufficient even for the vertebrates. The great work of Retzius stands as a classic for the ear and the most fruitful physiological studies have followed it. With the eye our knowledge has remained deficient, touching exactly the area of clearest vision, and this is just the point which should give us our first generalization, from what we know of human vision, as to the character of vision in the lower animals.

Mr. Slonaker's complete paper, soon to be published, of which the above is a partial abstract, gives the results of his examination of ninety-three different species, of which eighteen are mammals, forty-one birds, six reptiles, three amphibians and twenty-five fishes. In addition to the forms actually examined, the author has sifted the literature to date, and presents his results with those of other observers in convenient tabular form. The table gives species of animal, character of area and fovea and name of observer. Following this long table is a condensed statement, which will serve to give at a glance a notion of what part of the field has been covered.

NO. OF SPECIES.	Number Areas Found.	Number Foveas Found.	AREA.			FOVEA.		
			One Circular.	Two Circular.	Band-like.	One Simple.	Two Simple.	Trough-like.
48 Mammals	10	38	28		8	15		
102 Birds	0	1	59	11	36	72	11	22
25 Reptiles	3 ?	17	20		3	6		2
13 Amphibians	3	11	3		7	2		
30 Fishes	10	25	20			5		

From the above we see that in mammals possession of a visual area of band-like or circular form is the rule. A farther differentiation